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AMENDMENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: A. Chinnaian et al. Attorney Docket No.: **AXCO121326 (new)**
PTHY121326 (old)

Application No.: 10/798,834 Art Unit: 3733 / Confirmation No: 5037

Filed: March 10, 2004 Examiner: J. Kim

Title: **DEVICE AND METHOD FOR FIXING BONE SEGMENTS**

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Seattle, Washington 98101

March 7, 2006

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Please note that the Attorney Docket No. has been changed to **AXCO121326**.

Claims 1-27 are pending in the present application. In a restriction requirement mailed on February 8, 2006, a position was set forth that the application contained two patentably distinct inventions defined by Group I (Claims 1-24) and Group II (Claims 25-27).

Applicants elect Group I (Claims 1-24) for prosecution on the merits, without prejudice to file divisional applications on the other noted inventions. Applicants hereby make such election without traverse.

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The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if there any remaining issues regarding this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date.

Date: 3/7/2006 Carole Julep

BCS:cj

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